

THE CONNECTICUT CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION LOBBY

Testimony for Public Hearing, March 5, 2012

In opposition to Raised Bill No. 289

An Act Concerning the Establishment of Tolls for the Extension of Route 11

To Members of the Transportation Committee:

We strongly oppose the consideration of this bill at this time. The Connecticut Department of Transportation study to evaluate the use of tolling as a means of financing the Route 11 extension project is still in its early stages.

Data collection of important factors such as market research, equity assessment and community outreach is incomplete and has not as yet been analyzed. In fact, the results of the study are not scheduled to be reviewed by the legislature until late 2012. Passing an act to establish tolls is premature.

Moreover, in this period of financial constraint and reduced federal financing, Conn DOT must prioritize its projects. While the state is cutting back on subsidies to buses and trains and while many bridges and roads are in unsafe condition, we must postpone any new road construction or extensions.

We urge you to deny this bill.

Thank you,

**Jill Kelly and Carol Leighton
Co-Chairs, CT Citizens Transportation Lobby**